ALBERTA INDEPENDENCE GUIDE

Our Province.
Our Choice.

A guide for Alberta families

ALBERTA PROSPERITY PROJECT

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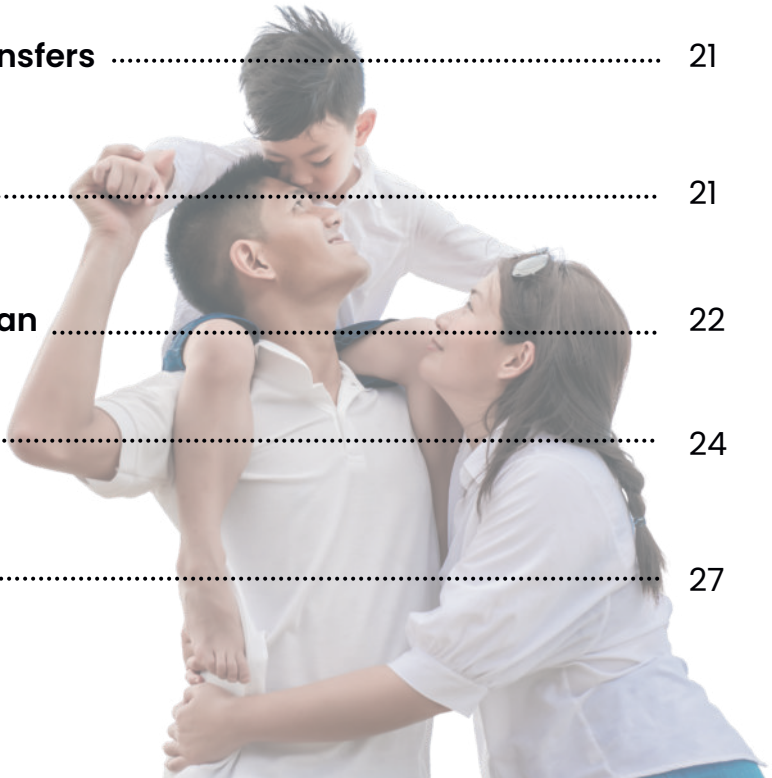

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For You!

Thank you for taking a courageous step for the future of Alberta

The future of Alberta is OUR future. The future of our children, grandchildren, and future generations.

How is something so grand accomplished? By Albertans just like you inviting those they care about to a respectful discussion.

Many are afraid of change and of what it would look like if Albertans took more control over our own future. A lot of this hesitation is based on our natural fear of something new, but also on vague warnings from those who oppose setting Alberta free.

While Ottawa has taxpayer funded media as their mouthpiece, the people of Alberta have something stronger: relationship and community.

Food is always good - get some treats and invite people over for a chat.

They may not all end up agreeing with you, but you will have planted powerful seeds and facts. We recommend an informal, friendly environment with treats provided. Present the facts but don't take it personally if it doesn't bear fruit just yet.

The following guide is intended to help make that discussion easier with topics laid out by subject. Print the pages following this one as handouts to help keep the discussion on track and for participants to take home after. If people decline an invitation to an informational get together, see if they would be willing to read this handout at home and meet you one-on-one after to discuss.

Alberta wasn't built in a day.

Thank you for taking a courageous step for the future of Alberta

The future of Alberta is YOUR future. It's in your hands to build from the ground up. The world's newest nation.

So why is there a growing movement of almost half of Albertans who want to change the status quo?

Isn't that risky? Unpatriotic? Unfeasible, even?

The following information is intended to help explain why so many are considering the future in a new light. Some of the things you read may surprise you—please feel free to research them further.

A word of caution: the mainstream media in Canada are funded by taxpayer dollars (CBC, for example, receives approximately $1.4 billion annually, with Mark Carney pledging an additional $150 million annually). If Albertan taxpayers stop funding them, they stand to lose a great deal of money. Please bear this in mind as you hear their dire predictions. They will paint those seeking change in a poor light. But you know your friends. Likely the person who shared this with you is a friend trying to reach out. They have nothing to gain by sharing this with you and may in fact be risking a rebuff. Your best research will be done by looking at numbers rather than editorial pieces by paid pundits.

To research the following information more thoroughly, please read *The Value of Freedom* document available at albertaprosperityproject.com.

Alberta Prosperity Project

Dear Alberta Citizen:

First off, thank you for being here. I appreciate that you made the decision to listen and consider the reasons behind the growing sovereignty movement in Alberta. Today, we are facing a significant crossroads—a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to send a message to Ottawa about our province's future, lawfully and democratically.

But in order for the democratic process to be just, we must have an informed citizenry. That is why I chose to lead the Alberta Prosperity Project: to educate Albertans about the reality of our province's relationship to confederation and the choices we have.

Like many of you, I had never imagined I would be involved in provincial politics—I was a local business owner, father, and grandfather, proud of this country and this province. But after learning about the direction that Ottawa is taking us and the very real stakes involved, I felt there is no choice but to act out of concern for the future of my family, fellow Albertans, and our province.

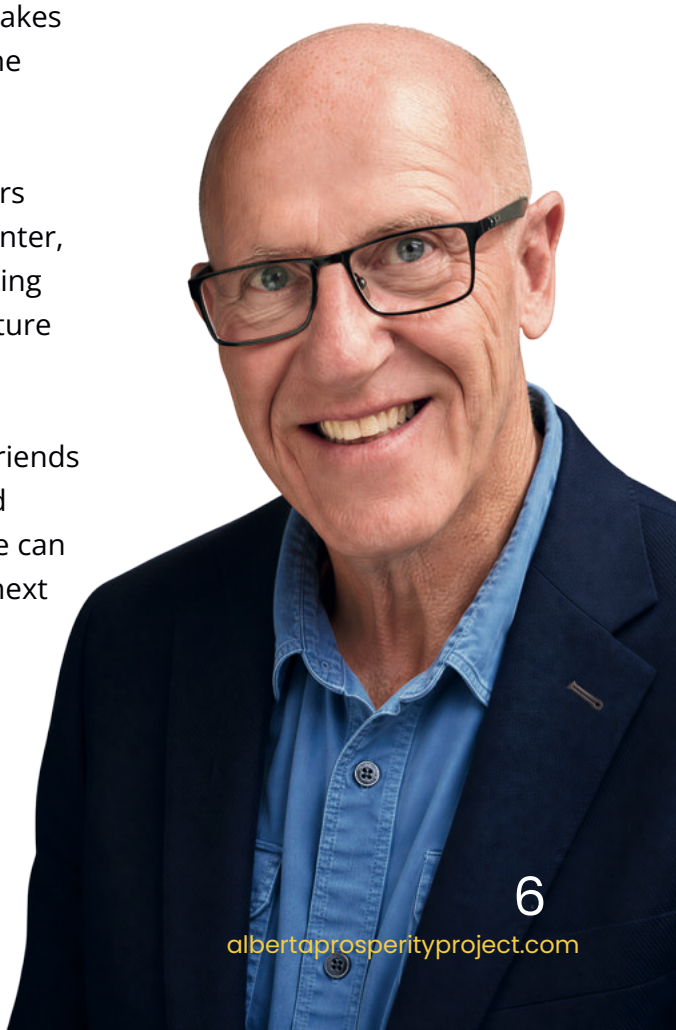
This is a grassroots movement—built by thousands of volunteers spending countless hours collecting signatures in the cold of winter, organizing and speaking at townhalls and gatherings, and creating educational materials so that Albertans can shape their own future through a democratic referendum.

I invite you to take what you learn here and share it with your friends and family so they too can be empowered to make an informed choice. This is a moment that will make history, and I believe we can secure a stronger, more prosperous, and freer Alberta for the next generation.

Let's Go!

Sincerely,

Mitch Sylvestre
CEO, Alberta Prosperity Project



"It will be you who will determine whether or not you want to see more of your lives directed and controlled by Ottawa."

— **PETER LOUGHEED**
10TH PREMIER OF ALBERTA

"Albertans built this province with their own hands.
It's time we had the right to decide our own future."

— **MITCH SYLVESTRE**
CEO ALBERTA PROSPERITY PROJECT

WHAT'S EVERYONE GETTING SO WORKED UP ABOUT

Whether we were born in Canada or chose it later, the name “Canada” has meant something dear to us.

Oh, Canada

Love for your country is a powerful and beautiful thing.

When we think of Canada, a country that has been known for its friendliness, peacekeeping, and beautiful scenery, many Albertans feel a sense of loss.

Our love for our country is touched by a deeper sense of abandonment when we look at what Canada has become over the past several decades. We know we were privileged to live in one of the greatest countries in the world, built on strong values and a respect for our fellow Canadians. But now it grieves us to see Canada disrespecting those values.

We have been watching the direction the country has been taking and do not agree with the course that has been set. The values of the East are drifting further and further from the values of the West and the East is at the helm.

We are among the most taxed citizens in the world, with little representation to show for it. We know the results of the federal election before the votes of the West are even counted. If a Conservative leader does get in, their voter base is out East and they must always consider the East before Alberta.

When we have lived with peace and prosperity for many years, it can be hard to believe that it will fail. Throughout history, nations have changed drastically, yet it's difficult to believe it could happen here... happen now... **happen to us.**

But those seeking to forge a stronger Alberta are not doing so out of fear.

We are doing so out of hope! Many of our parents and grandparents came to Canada, leaving their own country behind. We don't view them as traitors to their country of birth. Instead, we are grateful to them for taking a clear-eyed, unsentimental look at the road ahead. They took a chance on a new way of life and risked redefining themselves to provide a better future for their children and grandchildren.

Their heritage was still a part of them, even with immigration, with many weaving a new tapestry for their children out of old threads and new.

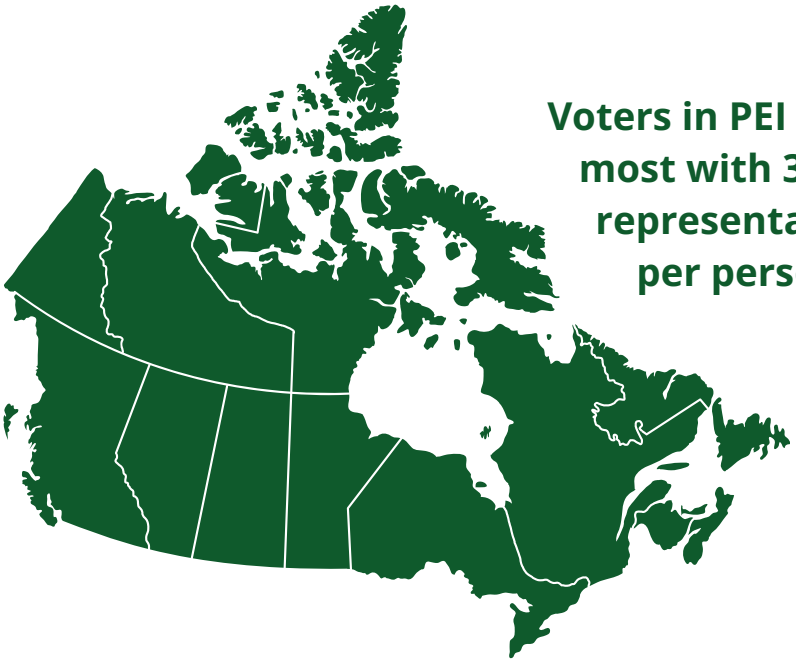
Alberta seeks to honour and foster REAL Canadian values by staying true to the values of our childhood and heritage, charting a different course from the decline of the eastern provinces.

Oh, Canada

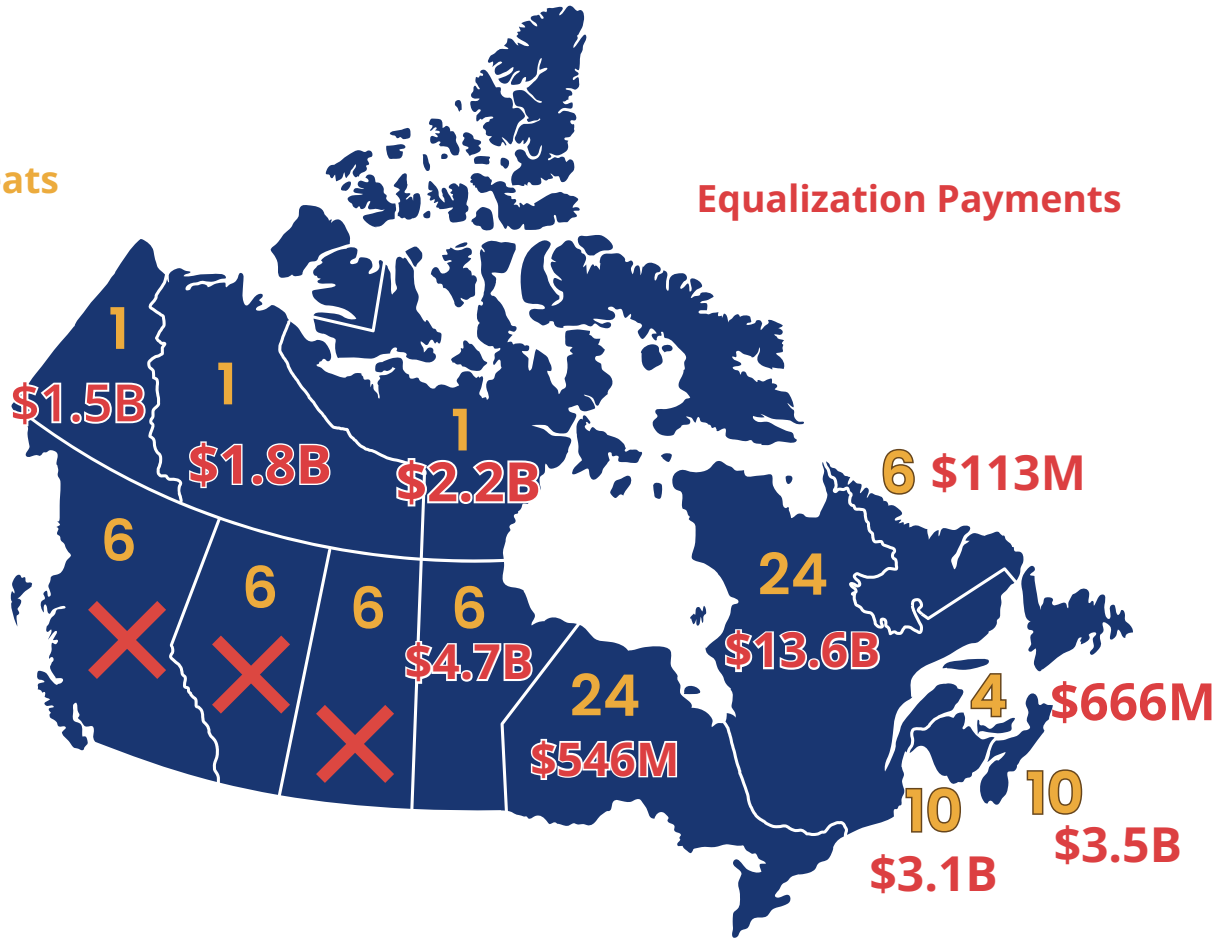
Alberta has a large average population per riding.

What does that mean?

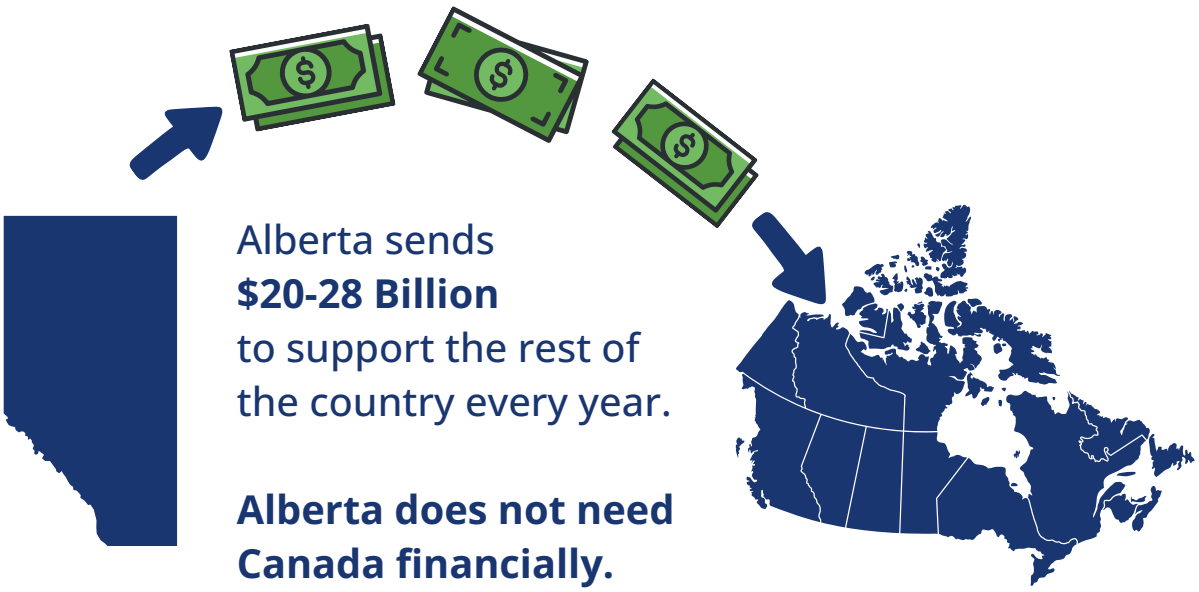
Voters in most other provinces and territories have more voting power than an Albertan.



Voters in PEI get the most with 3x the representation per person



Oh, Canada



Alberta sends
$20-28 Billion
to support the rest of
the country every year.

Alberta does not need Canada financially.

Alberta's oil revenue is fully counted when calculating Equalization payments while provinces like Quebec undercount resources allowing them to appear "poorer". If hydropower were valued like oil, Quebec's payments could be reduced by billions

SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE

A lot of people who support Alberta independence often say they want to ensure a better life for future generations of Albertans.

- Federal policies are often not in the best interests of Albertans and do not reflect the realities of life in Alberta and the needs and priorities of the people who live and work here.
- An Alberta government that is free from federal control is better able to make decisions and policies that benefit Albertans, rather than benefitting the federal government's agenda.
- More control over spending could mean greater investment in things that affect everyday life — like healthcare, education, social services, and infrastructure.
- Potential changes such as lower personal taxes, reduced pension contributions, and increased benefits are ways to make life more affordable for individuals and families.

SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE CONT.

- An independent Alberta is also committed to sustainability and protecting the environment, but not through constraining federal policies that hurt the economy with no demonstrated environmental benefits.
- Having more control over policing could allow Alberta to create policies to improve public safety in both rural and urban areas.
- People who support independence believe that Albertans should have more control over decisions that shape their lives — today and in the future.

FUTURE IMPACT

A brighter future for all. Current and coming soon.

The goal of Alberta independence is to create a better future for all Albertans - including children, families, seniors, and future generations.

The idea is that keeping more revenue within Alberta creates more opportunities to invest in programs and services that benefit Albertans. This includes the $68–75 billion annually currently sent to Ottawa in .

FEDERAL TAXES SENT TO OTTAWA

Sent = $68-75 billion annually.
Received = $22-26 billion annually.

What could Alberta do with that money if it stayed in the province?

ECONOMY

Alberta Earns It. Alberta Should Keep It.

Alberta generates more wealth per person than any other province in Canada. Yet billions leave every year in federal transfers, with little say in how that money is spent.

An independent Alberta keeps those dollars here - for better schools, shorter wait times, and lower costs for every family, whether you live in Calgary, Camrose, or a canola field outside Lethbridge.

ECONOMY // JOBS

Opportunities abound. A stronger economy.

Economic growth, along with savings from reduced regulation, could contribute to the creation of hundreds of thousands of jobs by 2045.

A stronger economy could also support investment in public services, including healthcare, education, infrastructure, and social services, creating additional employment opportunities.

TAXES

Keep more in your pocket.

Tax reductions are very possible. If Alberta kept the full **$68-75 billion** currently sent to Ottawa in federal taxes, the province would have more money available to make decisions about spending and taxation.
This surplus could be used to reduce taxes for Albertans - a priority for many people.

One proposed approach includes eliminating federal GST and personal income tax entirely. This would reduce taxes by 29% per person, on average.
Other proposals could see further reductions of up to 46% per person.
The exact tax system would be decided during negotiations and the transition process, but reducing the tax burden on Albertans is a key goal of an independent Alberta.

BANKING

Financials matter.

Potential impacts to banking and mortgages are not yet well understood.

Many financial institutions operate across international borders, however specific details and decisions will be dependent on negotiations and policies that will not be made until a transition to independence is official.

When thinking about possible impacts, it can be useful to think about how mortgages, bank accounts, and other financial matters have been impacted by federal policies. Housing affordability is one example, with Canada seeing significantly higher levels of housing inflation and price-to-income deterioration than many other developed countries. The fact that this is not seen globally suggests that Canada's own policies are the reason for this. This is only one example.

Think about your mortgage rate, or your bank accounts: are you personally seeing benefits of recent federal policies? Or do you worry that recent fiscal decisions have not been in the best interest of Canadians?

EQUALIZATION AND TRANSFERS

Financials matter.

Alberta is a net contributor to the current federal fiscal system, meaning that the province pays in far more money than it gets back in federal transfers.

Current estimates are that Alberta pays $68-75 billion annually in federal taxes and receives $22-26 billion in federal transfers. This means that Alberta has a **net loss of $44-47 billion annually.** An independent Alberta would not have to make equalization payments anymore, because Alberta would no longer be part of Canada's federal fiscal system.

It is true that Alberta would no longer receive federal transfer payments. However, because Alberta pays much more federal tax than it receives in transfer, this is not a concern. An independent Alberta would retain the full $68-75 billion currently collected as federal revenue, covering the costs of both current provincial spending and federal services that Alberta would take over.

CANADA PENSION PLAN

Your Money. Anywhere.

The short answer is yes - a person's CPP follows them anywhere, even if they leave Canada. As long as their CPP contributions were made while working in Canada, a person can live anywhere in the world and still receive their CPP payments.

As an estimate, Alberta should receive **at least $167 billion in CPP** assets as a transfer from the CPP. Alberta is likely owed nearly double this amount, so this is a conservative estimate.

Currently, Alberta overcontributes to the CPP because of the younger workforce and higher employment rate - this means that Alberta gives more money to the CPP than our pensioners get back from the federal government.

ALBERTA PENSION PLAN

Higher revenue. Less effort.

The APP would have a higher annual revenue because there would be no contributions made to the CPP. This additional revenue could be used to lower contribution rates for Albertans, increase pension payouts and disability benefits, and replace federal programs like Canada Old Age Security (OAS).

There would also be safeguards in place to ensure that APP funding will only be used to support current and future pensioners.

If necessary, Alberta would undertake to pay all pensions out of surplus fiscal capacity in order to guarantee the security of Alberta pensioners through the transition to an independent Alberta.

"Alberta kids deserve the best. Let's fund it ourselves."

EDUCATION

Invest in Every Child.

Alberta students consistently rank among the highest performers in Canada. Our teachers are dedicated and our communities care deeply about education.

With independence, every dollar Alberta generates stays in Alberta - funding smaller class sizes, better resources, and schools that reflect the values of the families they serve.

EDUCATION

Alberta's Priority

Education would continue to be an important part of Alberta's future. Alberta already manages its own education system, including K-12 schools, colleges, and universities, because education is mainly under provincial responsibility.

Financial planning for an independent Alberta includes covering current provincial spending for education. All current spending would be maintained, and investing additional funds into education and other public services is a priority.

EDUCATION // UNIVERSITY

Every campus. Still open.

If Alberta became independent from Canada, there would be negotiations about policies, agreements, and relationships, including university admission requirements. Most universities, both in Canada and other countries, have processes for accepting international students.

There are also many policies in place worldwide regarding criteria and equivalency for educational credentials. An independent Alberta could work to adopt these policies or create new policies in partnership with Canada and other countries.

Your children may instead choose to attend university in Alberta, especially as **reductions in post-secondary tuition fees to 25% of current levels** has been proposed as a possible priority initiative.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Support Albertans. Improve quality if life.

Yes, an independent Alberta would be able to cover the costs of social services. The majority of social services are already under provincial jurisdiction, meaning that Alberta administers and covers the costs of these programs.
Financial estimates for an independent Alberta include maintaining current provincial spending, including funding for social services.

With the additional funds that an independent Alberta would have as a result of retaining the $44-47 billion that is currently lost to federal taxes, along with possible increased revenues from Alberta's growth, there would be opportunities to cover current federally funded services, and also invest more money into social services. The goal is to strengthen programs that support Albertans and improve quality of life.

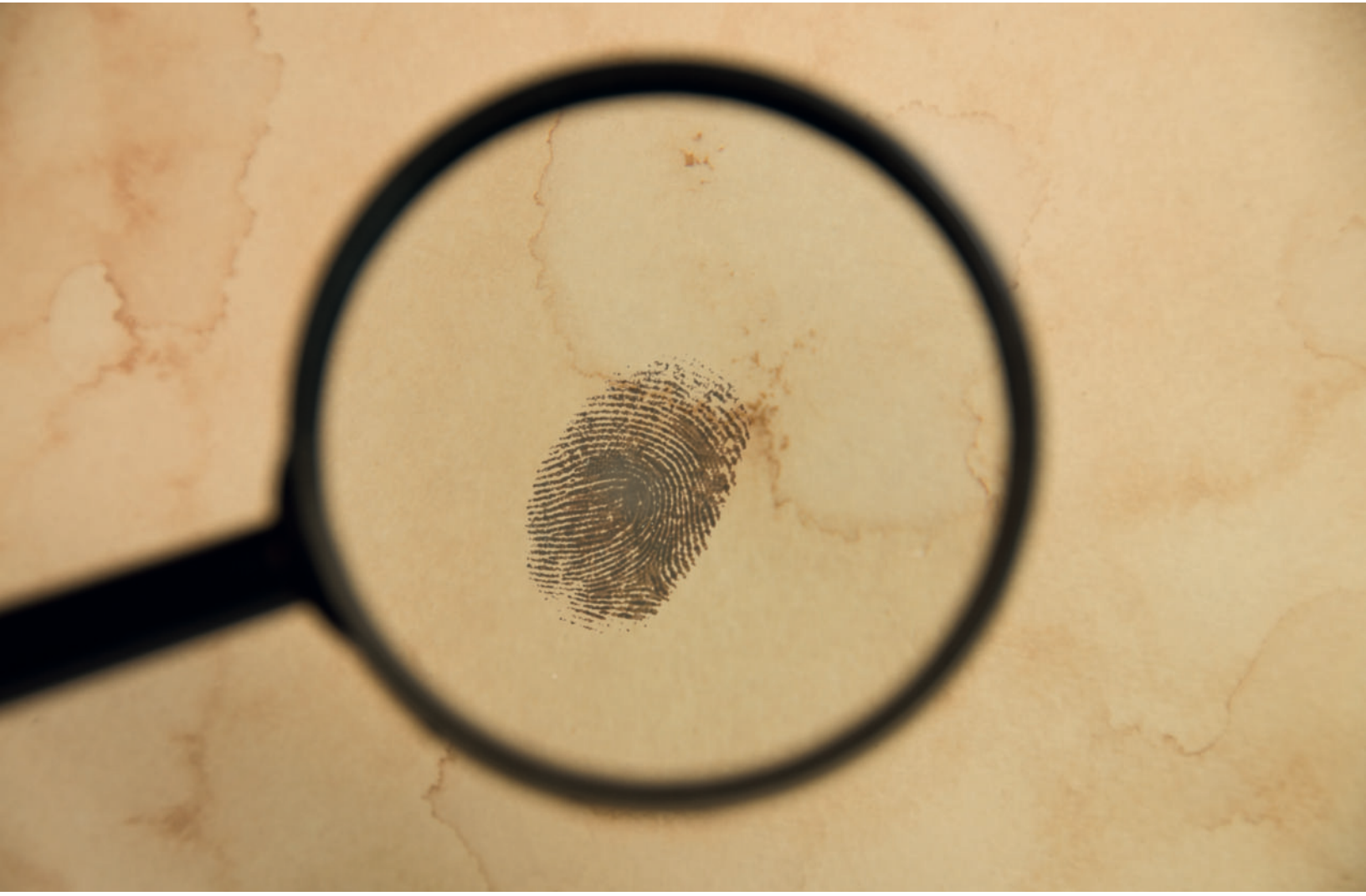
NATIONAL DEFENCE

Defending Alberta.

An independent Alberta would establish the Alberta Military for national defense. Financial plans for independence include taking over responsibilities that are currently managed federally, which includes national defense.

Estimated costs for defense are projected at about $3–5 billion per year, with additional one-time startup costs of approximately $1–2.5 billion for things like equipment, facilities, and cybersecurity.

The proposed plan also includes support for Canadian Military members who choose to transfer to the Alberta Military, including pension support, education opportunities, and transition assistance.



PUBLIC SAFETY

A safer Alberta.

Public safety is a major reason for wanting independence. Crime rates have risen substantially in the last decade and federal policies are doing nothing to reverse this. An independent Alberta has the potential to become safer than Alberta is currently. Having more control over both policing and border policies could allow for strategies that suit Alberta's needs and priorities. The goal is to protect Albertans, not criminals.

This could include a stronger focus on issues like crime reduction, drug abuse (like fentanyl) and improving border control.

IMMIGRATION

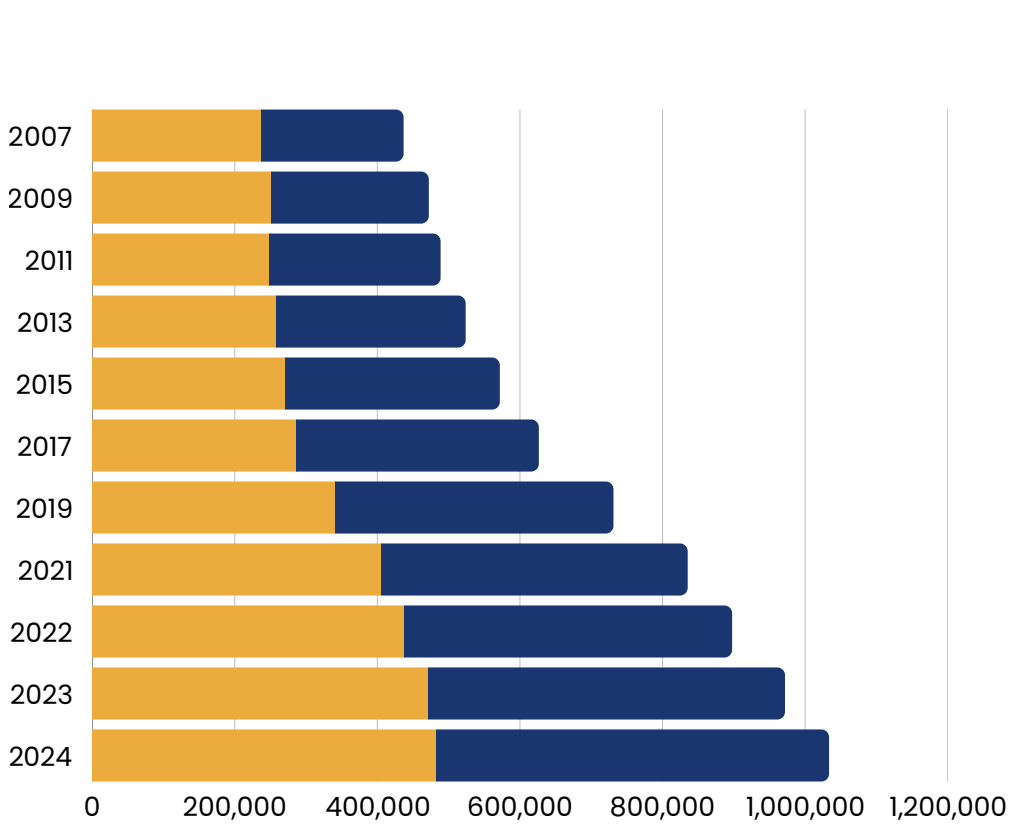
Safer Borders.

Control over immigration is a major reason that Alberta independence is desired. The federal government is the ultimate authority on all matters involving immigration, and they have final decision-making power. This means that Alberta does not have much control over immigration into the province.

With control over immigration and deportation policies, Alberta could create its own rules to prevent acceptance of applicants with criminal convictions or jail sentences, while still allowing for appeals and humanitarian exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

Rapid Pace of Immigration and Cultural Change

Many Alberta residents, including immigrants, have expressed concerns over the federal immigration policy's ever-increasing rate as it changes the cultural fabric of communities faster than integration can accommodate.



An independent Alberta could focus on immigration policies that are skills-based and in line with priority skills needed in Alberta, in industries such as energy, technology, and agriculture. Proposals include processes for verifying skilled trades workers and returning to a points-based application system, similar to what has previously been used in Canada (the Federal Skill Worker Program of 2005).

Controlling immigration also means that Alberta could deport non-citizens with criminal convictions. Many people feel that current federal immigration policies are too lenient on criminals. Public consultation would be sought to ensure that policies are in line with the interests of Albertans.

PASSPORT SERVICES

Safer Borders.

Alberta would take responsibility for administering passports and citizenship rather than relying on the current federal system.

Management and funding for these services have already been factored into cost estimates for an independent Alberta.

Alberta would control its own border and customs services.

At this time, it is not known whether or not Albertans would need to show their passport to visit Canada. This would be determined during negotiations between Alberta and Canada.

POLICING

Safer for all.

Rather than contracting the RCMP, an independent Alberta could establish its own Alberta police force.

While estimated costs for an Alberta police force could be higher than the current costs for contracting the RCMP, the non-financial benefits are clear: enhancement of both rural and urban policing through a police force which is directly accountable to Alberta and its people - instead of the RCMP (an organization which has been involved in many serious controversies over the years), who are accountable to Ottawa.

The goal is for Albertans to feel safer than they do currently. Concerns about public safety have increased over the last decade, across Canada.

ALBERTAN VALUES

More control over policies.

An Alberta government that has more control over policies, spending, and decision-making would be better able to represent the values of Albertans, in comparison to the federal government that is positioned far from Alberta.

Federal services, which Alberta helps fund, are often ineffective and inefficient, including a limited national defense, ineffective (and controversial) federal policing, and international relations which often involve negative portrayals of Alberta's resource industries.

An independent Alberta would put the values of Albertans and Alberta families first. Public consultation will be an important element of the transition to independence. This includes engagement with all 48 First Nations, 8 Metis Settlements, and urban Indigenous peoples.

BIG QUESTIONS

Local policy decisions.

There are many questions to consider when it comes to Alberta independence, but what it comes down to is simple: Do you believe that decisions about Alberta's economy, resources, public safety, and future could benefit Alberta more if those decisions were made in Alberta rather than Ottawa?

There are many questions to consider when it comes to Alberta independence, but what it comes down to is simple: Do you believe that decisions about Alberta's economy, resources, public safety, and future could benefit Alberta more if those decisions were made in Alberta rather than Ottawa?

Local decisions are better able to reflect the values of Albertans and the realities of life in Alberta if they are made in Alberta.
The provincial government, no matter what party is in power, is constrained by federal decisions, meaning that they often have limited control over policies that have major impacts on Albertans.

It is important to remember that wanting independence for Alberta does not necessarily mean that you dislike Canada - it means that you want what is best for Alberta.

ENVIRONMENT

Alberta ❤️ the environment

Protecting the environment would be a priority, ensuring that Alberta's biodiversity and natural landscapes are maintained for future generations.

With more control over environmental policies, Alberta could create strategies designed specifically for its own landscapes and local priorities, instead of using one approach for every province.

Federal environmental policies do not take into consideration the distinct landscapes of each province. Local policies can harness the local environment to be more effective and more sustainable.

The goal would be to build a healthier, more resilient environment by supporting biodiversity, protecting soil health, and creating long-term sustainability.

Alberta has unique natural landscapes — including grasslands, peatlands, swamps, foothills, and mountain forests — that can naturally store carbon very effectively. Using these resources could be part of a made-in-Alberta approach to environmental management.

A full proposal is outlined in The Value of Freedom document (pages 23–25), which provides more details about this proposed environmental strategy. We encourage you to review the proposal for yourself to explore the possibilities for a more logical and effective environmental strategy in an independent Alberta.

Final Thoughts

Citizenship & Travel

Anyone born in Canada will always be a Canadian citizen. 3 million Canadians currently don't live in Canada, and over 3 million have dual citizenship, including 48 MPs.

G20 Countries

IN RECESSION

Canada

NOT IN RECESSION

USA
Australia
Brazil
Argentina
China
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Italy
Japan
Mexico
Russia
Saudi Arabia
South Africa
South Korea
Turkey
UK

Government Overreach and Violation of Rights and Freedoms

There are growing concerns about the federal government granting itself too much power in recent years.

Bill C-8:
This bill gives the federal government more control over telecommunications access like internet and cell service. Government could order companies to block someone's access to the internet without going through a court, and without public transparency. While the stated goal is to improve cybersecurity, there are concerns that this would lead to government overreach, less transparency, and violations of personal freedoms.

Bill C-9:
This bill focuses on stopping hate speech and hate-based actions. That's not a bad thing! The controversy is around how broadly terms like "hate" and "intimidation" are defined. The government might not apply these definitions consistently or fairly, potentially targeting certain groups. Freedom of speech and expression may be stifled.

Bill C-22:
This bill is meant to help police fight crime and improve cybersecurity by expanding digital surveillance powers. However, the bill gives too much access to people's online information, even if they are not suspected of a crime. Concerns have been raised about data collection and protections from unreasonable search. Major tech companies like Apple, Google, and Meta have voiced concerns about the privacy violations of this bill.

Bill C-34:
This bill would restrict social media access for anyone under 16 and give the government the power to decide what content is considered "harmful", for all users. Once again, the definitions are broad and could lead to government censorship, which is in direct conflict with the principles of democracy. It is also concerning that young people could lose access to online communities, support networks, and spaces where they share ideas, as well as making digital ID necessary for all ages, leading to potential "social credit" like restrictions.

Myth: "Alberta can't leave Canada—it's not legal."

FACT:
Alberta has the legal right to leave. The law is already in place!

In 1998, the Supreme Court ruled that any province has the right to pursue independence if there is a clear majority vote (that's from the landmark Reference Secession of Quebec case).

In response, **Parliament passed the Clarity Act in 2000**, confirming the same thing: if a majority of Albertans vote to leave, the federal government must negotiate our exit.

No new laws are needed. We already have the constitutional path laid out.

Myth: "Only the radical fringe want independence."

FACT: Polls regularly show 38%-45% support—we just have to choose it.

Myth: "Alberta is landlocked so it can't trade."

FACT:
Alberta already exports billions. Having more control won't block trade—it strengthens our leverage to negotiate better access with a pipeline-hostile Canadian government.

Alberta can more freely negotiate trade agreements with the US, and more. Our oil, food, and minerals give us massive leverage. We could also enjoy a mutually tariff-free relationship with the US.

Thank you for reading and considering the different options the future holds.

To find out more, please visit:
albertaprosperityproject.com

ALBERTA PROSPERITY PROJECT

OUR FUTURE.
OUR CHOICE.